MIDDLE EAST AND SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

9 FEBRUARY 1982

Reaction to Reagan Interview

Reporting the FRG weekly WELT AM SONNTAG's interview with President Ronald Reagan, according to which the President said Israel is the only reliable U.S. ally in the Middle East, the clandestine Voice of Palestine radio said the important thing about the interview is the "offensive" stand Reagan took against Washington's Arab friends. Asserting that Reagan's remarks can be considered as an attack on Saudi Arabia and the Gulf states, the radio wondered how Arabs who are still trying to "beautify" U.S. positions will react to Reagan's policy, which addresses them in a flagrantly hostile manner.

Abu Dhabi's AL-ITTIHAD asked why Reagan committed the "foolish act" of courting the Zionists at a time when his secretary of defense is visiting the Middle East to consolidate strategic relations with those Arab countries Reagan describes as autocratic. Asserting that Reagan's remarks were not a slip of the tongue, the newspaper said the President had probably lost his nerve as a result of the Arab stand at the UN General Assembly.

The Ash-Shariqah daily AL-KHALIJ said that while the Arabs have placed their wealth at the disposal of the U.S. economy and have allowed the Americans to use Arab waters and airspace, the United States "waves a big stick at us, and its leaders -- from Reagan to Kirkpatrick -- insult us." AL-KHALIJ called on Arab Gulf foreign ministers to summon their respective U.S. ambassadors to tell them that deliberate U.S. offensiveness to the Arabs has reached an unacceptable level and that President Reagan and his senior aides must make official apologies.

In a brief report on Reagan's interview, Tripoli radio interpreted the President's remarks as an attack on Saudi Arabia.

Egypt

Mubarak Tour -- President Husni Mubarak, in a Bonn press conference broadcast by Cairo radio, said he was pleased with the FRG's support for Egypt's call for mutual recognition between Israel and the Palestinians. He also extended an invitation to FRG Chancellor Helmut Schmidt to visit Egypt. Asked about the possibilities of a rapprochement between Egypt and the other Arab states, Mubarak said he does not wish to impose himself on any of his Arab brothers and does not want to embarrass them. However, he said, the door is open to them, and when they find a suitable time, Egypt will welcome them.

Mubarak gave a press conference after meeting with Austrian Chancellor Bruno Kreisky in Vienna, where he stopped over on the last leg of his current tour. According to MENA, in answer to a question about how Egypt would react to an Israeli military operation against the PLO in southern Lebanon, Mubarak said Israel must not overreact to any incident by sparking off a war in Lebanon. If, however, this occurs, "we will define our position clearly," he added.

Cairo radio noted that Mubarak subsequently returned to Egypt where he described his tour as "successful." Commenting on the results of the president's visit to Europe and the United States, the radio said the tour has confirmed Egypt's Arab commitment, especially toward the Palestinian issue, in no uncertain terms. It also said the visit has reaffirmed Egypt's eagerness to diversify its sources of armament and to benefit from every modern development in this field without any complexes or sensitivities.

Leftists Arrested -- Citing sources close to the National Progressive Unionist Grouping, AFP reported that 18 leftist militants, including 6 lawyers, were arrested on the night of 7 February.

Syria

Call for Action Against Israel Supporters -- WAKH reported that at the forthcoming Arab League Council meeting in Tunis, Syria will propose that the Arab states sever political and economic relations with the United States because of the latter's support for Israel. Syria will also seek similar measures against other states that support Israel and will urge the Arab states to make the Islamic Conference Organization and the Nonaligned Movement institute political and economic boycotts against Israel. Meanwhile, AFP quoted AL-BA'TH as asserting that the Arabs have no choice but to break with Europeans, face up to the Zionist enemy and boycott America.

Violence in Hamah -- Voice of Lebanon radio spoke of continuing bloodshed in Hamah, claiming that more than 500 people were killed as a result of army shelling and automatic weapons' fire. The radio also said the Muslim Brotherhood recently ambushed a bus near the city, killing some 40 soldiers.

Israel

Egyptian Chief of Staff 'Abd Rab an-Nabi Hafiz arrived on 7 February for a 5-day visit Jerusalem radio reported. The radio noted that the visit was taking place despite the UN General Assembly resolution calling for a boycott of Israel. In an interview carried by YEDI'OT AHARONOT Hafiz said that despite a policy of peace with Israel, his country must purchase sophisticated arms because of dangers that threaten the region, chiefly the danger of Soviet encroachment. He ruled out purchasing arms from Israel because "the time for that has not yet come."

Lebanon

Beirut radio reported that the Soviet Union has informed Lebanon that it approved the government's request to increase the size of UNIFIL by 1,000 men. Meanwhile, Voice of Lebanon radio noted that Lebanese Front Armed Forces Commander Bashir al-Jumayyil denied TIME magazine's claim that he recently met with Israeli Defense Minister Ari'el Sharon.

Gulf Affairs

In a 7 February press conference, reported by WAKH, Bahraini Foreign Minister Shaykh Muhammad ibn Mubarak Al Khalifah stressed that the Gulf states alone are responsible for defending their region.

Iran

A Guards Corps statement carried by Tehran radio announced that the guards arrested or killed several leading members of the Mojahedin-e Khalq. According to the statement, those killed in the operation against a northern Tehran hideout included Mas'ud Rajavi's deputy and successor, Musa Khiabani, Rajavi's wife Ashraf Rabi'i, Khiabani's wife, and more than 10 other main leaders of the organization. Asserting that the guards' operation smashed the organization, the statement appealed to Iranians to continue to report suspicious behavior to the Guards Corps.

Iran-Iraq Conflict

Military Situation -- An Iraqi communique carried by INA claimed that Iraqi forces are continuing their advance in the Bostan area and inflicting heavy losses in life and equipment. The communique said that throughout 8 February Iraqi helicopters attacked enemy concentrations in the area and returned safely to base. It also announced that 61 Iranians were killed in the war's various sectors. According to an Iranian communique broadcast by Tehran radio, the Iranian forces blocked a second Iraqi attempt to penetrate Iranian positions, and antiaircraft units repelled enemy aircraft overflights on the southern fronts. The communique acknowledged the death of two Iranians on 7 February.

Jordanian Volunteers -- Citing an Amman report published in the Dubayy paper AL-BAYAN, QNA reported that 4,000 Jordanian volunteers have engaged in intensive training and will leave for Iraq "next week." QNA added that it is not known whether this first group of volunteers will complete its training in Iraq or proceed immediately to the front.

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KABUL REPORTS SUCCESSES AGAINST REBELS

Weapons Captured

GF071759 Kabul in English to South Asia 1530 GMT 7 Feb 82

[Text] A number of counterrevolutionary elements were crushed in Kapisa and Parvan Provinces located to the north and northeast of Kabul. The (?captains) of these counterrevolutionary bandits were captured. Large quantities of weapons including 731 guns, rocket launchers and mortars, 1,459 mines, 4,197 antitank mines and antiaircraft weapons, antitank handgrenades, artillery bullets and large quantities of ammunition were seized from these criminals.

Similarly, large quantities of rice and wheat which they had robbed from the people were seized from these robbers. The people of Kapisa and Parvan Provinces expressed their happiness that these bandits were caught and wished the officers and soldiers further success and further annihilation of these mercenaries dispatched from abroad.

'Bandit' Leaders Arrested

GF080550 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 7 Feb 82

[Excerpt] A number of terrorists who were disturbing the peaceful life of Farah, Faryab, Qonduz and Balkh toilers, annoying and terrorizing them, were crushed recently through the efforts of the defenders of the revolution and with the cooperation of our toiling people. A number of these enemies of progress and revolutionary Afghanistan were arrested.

According to security forces in these provinces, a large number of counterrevolutionaries have been crushed and some of them have been arrested in the [name indistinct] district of Farah Province, two villages of Faryab Province, Almar subdistrict of Pashtun Kowt District of Faryab Province, 'Isakhail village of Chamar Darreh District of Qonduz Province, and Sholdarah District of Balkh Province.

A security source in Faryab Province added that the leaders of these bandits, Mawlawi Sarwar and Mohammad Morrad, have been arrested. The same source said that U.S. and Chinese machineguns, rocket launchers, antitank mines, a large quantity of ammunition, vehicles and papers showing the counterrevolutionaries' contact with counterrevolutionary elements abroad were seized. [passage indistinct]

Elements Ousted in Bajaur

GF071756 Kabul in English to South Asia 1530 GMT 7 Feb 82

[Text] In accordance with reports received, a great jirga, that is, assembly of elders, was convened in Bajaur. The participants during the [jirga] decided that all Afghan counterrevolutionary elements must immediately leave Bajaur area. The jirga decided that the tribes of Bajaur will not let the rebels to stay in their region anymore. The tribal elders of Bajaur also decided that if the rebels do not leave their region willingly they will be forced out with weapons. This decision of the elders of Bajaur is being notified to Pakistan Government. In this notice warning is given that the Afghan counterrevolutionary elements must immediately leave Bajaur region.

SATTAR SUMMONS PRESS, DISCUSSES FOOD SITUATION

BK071233 Hong Kong AFP in English 1016 GMT 7 Feb 82

[Text] Dacca, 7 Feb (AFP) -- President Abdus Sattar has assured the nation that there is no cause for concern about the country's food situation and that the government had taken adequate measures to stabilise foodgrain prices.

The president was "talking informally" with the editors of national dailies and other media summoned to the presidential palace last night, according to the official agency BSS.

Opposition parties last week held rallies and demonstrations against what they said was the government's failure to handle food distribution properly, resulting in a sudden rise in foodgrain prices throughout the country and shortages.

Since late last week the upward trend in prices has been controlled in Dacca and some other towns but press reports from various outlying districts indicated continued high prices and scarcities of foodstuffs.

President Sattar told the editors that the government had enough stocks of foodgrains at its disposal while efforts were now underway to build up a food reserve to meet any shortage in future.

He attributed the recent price hikes to "hoarding and panic buying" by a section of the community and told the newsmen that the government had released adequate quantities of foodgrain from its stocks for sale at fair prices and was taking steps to arrest the situation.

It was also considering suitable action against hoarders and dishonest food traders, the president added without specifying the actions. He said damage caused to two crops last year due to excessive rain and also drought had resulted in some shortfall in the country's food production but all possible measures were being taken to meet the deficit.

Food Minister Momen Khan said Friday in a broadcast that the country's food production shortfall due to crop damage has been estimated at 2.1 million tons, of which 1.2 million tons would be met from government reserves and the rest from imports, some of which had already arrived or were in the pipeline.

In Dacca, the municipal corporation announced last night that it would open 30 fair price shops from Monday.

Finance Minister Saifur Rahman, who returned home recently from an extensive tour which took in European and other countries, said recently in an interview that the government had received firm commitments from food donors for supply of 1.29 million tons of food.

The minister told EASTERN NEWS AGENCY that the EEC countries had agreed to increase their quota of foodgrains for Bangladesh and had recommended supply of 1.5 million tons to Dacca. The EEC was also considering a further request from Bangladesh for a further 50,000 tons of foodgrains.

Negotiations with Japan and Canada for enhanced food aid to Bangladesh were proceeding "satisfactorily," he said, but did not say whether the additional foodgrain requested from the EEC, Japan and Canada would come as a grant, loan or on a commercial purchase.

Bangladesh is also learnt to have approached some other rice producing countries including Burma and Thailand for foodgrain imports. President Abdus Sattar is expected to pay an official visit to Burma later this month and reports indicated that food imports would be one of the topics of his talks with Burmese leaders in Rangoon.

U.S. INVOLVEMENT IN INDIAN DEVELOPMENT SCORED

BK090923 Delhi PATRIOT in English 5 Feb 82 p 2

["Comment" column: "U.S. Aid"]

[Text] That the U.S. assistance to India as, in fact, all developing countries was only an instrument for building up its development potential to make it an attractive proposition for U.S. investors was never in doubt. It is, however, only the Reagan administration which has spelt out this intention behind the aid effort in clear terms. For it, even the meagre pittance it has allocated for this country, should be used to promote U.S. private investments in its industries. Not only the aid programmes already under implementation but also those to be devised in the future should be geared to this task.

This "deep involvement" of the U.S. private sector in India's development effort will both provide it with a lucrative avenue for investment and marketing its products as well as bind the country closely to Washington's apron strings. It will also be more in keeping with the character of the U.S. economy and hence conducive to a positive and continuing response by the latter to the administration's aid effort in India. However, this response can serve little purpose if this country's response to this effort is also not equally positive.

Apparently, statutes like the Foreign Exchange Regulation Act [FERA] and the Monopolies and Restrictive Trade Practices Act create some doubts in this regard, and it is to get them modified and, if possible, withdrawn altogether, that Washington has made its priority task. With Indian monopolists also constantly pressing the government for the same, the United States obviously finds the situation congenial for making this bid.

In the India-U.S. business council, it also has an institutionalised framework to ask for removal of the irritants like the FERA and other restrictions on free entry of foreign private capital. One wonders if the government has a clear perception of these intentions of the Reagan administration which, if allowed to succeed, will bind the country to the United States.

MIZO RINGLEADER ARRESTED, OTHERS SURRENDER

BK090907 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 9 Feb 82

[Text] In Mizoram, police have broken up a group of the outlawed Mizo National Front with the arrest of one of its ringleaders in Aijal last night. The arrested person is a self-styled sergeant, (Lal Mingliana). One pistol of Chinese make and several incriminating documents were seized from the house where he was hiding. The owner of the house was also arrested.

A police spokesman said that the group entered Mizoram a few days ago on a mission to kill high dignitaries. A massive hunt is on to nab the other members of the group.

The All-India Radio Aijal correspondent reports that the self-styled sergeant is wanted in connection with several killings. The police had announced some time ago a reward of 10,000 rupees to anybody giving information about him.

Meanwhile, four more members of the outlawed Mizo National Front, including a self-styled lieutenant and a self-styled sergeant, surrendered to the police this morning. With this the number of those who surrendered has gone up to 67.

AFP: FRG ENVOY SHOT, WOUNDED IN TEHRAN

NC081543 Paris AFP in English 1540 GMT 8 Feb 82

[Text] Bonn, 8 Feb (AFP) -- West German Ambassador to Tehran Jens Petersen was shot at and slightly wounded today while he was returning to the embassy residence there, the West German Foreign Ministry reported.

Mr Petersen was hurt by flying glass, a spokesman said. It was not known who was responsible for the shooting.

The ambassador was driving home with a colleague in a bullet-proof car, the spokesman said. The chauffeur managed to drive the damaged vehicle to the embassy.

This was the first attack against a West German diplomat in the Iranian capital.

Comments on Attack

NC081633 Paris AFP in English 1623 GMT 8 Feb 82

[Excerpt] Tehran, 8 Feb (AFP) -- West German Ambassador to Tehran Jens Petersen was shot at 30 times while driving in north Tehran but was spared injury by his car's bullet-proof protection, Mr Petersen told AFP after the attack.

He said that his car was fired on for over a minute and his driver added there were two or three gunmen.

A diplomatic source here said there was a German woman in the car at the time.

Mr Petersen said he avoided injury by diving below the seats in the back of the car.

The source added that the ambassador's car was blocked on a north Tehran highway by a white, Japanese-made car, from which two men armed with automatic pistols jumped out and opened fire.

The source said the driver managed to escape by quickly backing the car away from the attackers.

Ministry Condemns Attack

LD091018 Tehran IRNA in English 0926 GMT 9 Feb 82

[Text] Tehran, 9 Feb (IRNA) -- The car of the ambassador of the Federal Republic of Germany was fired on Monday morning in Tehran's 7th Tir Square by a number of armed men, announced the Foreign Ministry this morning.

The German ambassador, Jens Petersen, escaped the attack unhurt and today met with the Iranian foreign minister.

The Foreign Ministry spokesman condemned the terrorist attack saying it was against international principles to attack a representative of a foreign country who was a guest of the Islamic Republic of Iran.

Group Claims Responsibility

NC090808 Paris AFP in English 0748 GMT 9 Feb 82

[Text] Tehran, 9 Feb (AFP) -- An unsuccessful attack yesterday on West German Ambassador to Iran Jens Petersen was claimed today by a splinter group of the Marxist People's Fedayeen of Iran.

The attack -- during which 30 bullets were fired at Mr Petersen's car as he was being driven from his home to the West German Embassy -- was claimed in a telephone call to AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE here by a woman who said she represented the Ahmad Zadeh faction of the Fedayeen organization, a little-known splinter group.

She said the group carried out the attack because "West German imperialism is close to American imperialism, and has played a very important role in the rebuilding of repressive power in Iran."

"The action was decided for 19 Bahman, the anniversary of the armed confrontation between the Fedayeen and the shah's forces of repression in Siakhal, in northern Iran, which left several people dead among the revolutionary fighters," she said.

The date, 19 Bahman, is February 18 under the Iranian calendar.

Mr Petersen told AFP in a telephone interview after the attack yesterday that he had received only minor scratches from flying glass. He said his driver and West German accompanying him had also suffered only slight injuries.

The 57-year-old diplomat, posted here since 1980, said the three avoided injury by diving below the seats in the back of the car.

It was the first attack against a West German diplomat in the Iranian capital. Mr Petersen was recalled immediately afterwards to West Germany. Meanwhile, the Tehran Foreign Ministry promised to do everything possible to protect the lives of foreign diplomats here.

Relations between Bonn and Tehran, though strengthened by a recent visit to West Germany by Iranian Foreign Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati, are fragile because of Bonn's repeated condemnations of executions in Iran.

KHOMEYNI MEETS WITH MAJLIS DELEGATION

Rafsanjani Address

LD081516 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 8 Feb 82

[Speech by Majlis Speaker 'Ali Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani at the 8 February meeting with Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeyni at Hoseyniyeh Jamaran — recorded]

[Excerpt] In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. We thank God that the Majlis deputies had the honor to be received by the great imam during the decade of salvation ceremonies.

Of the great feats accomplished by the Majlis during almost 2 years, appointing suitable cabinets -- aside from the peripheral tasks of voting on the political incompetence of a person who had befallen this revolution like cancer, solving the issue of the hostages and other social issues that are solved in the Majlis -- our accomplishments include establishing foundations like the State Inspectorate General, the administrative justice court, judicial police and other such tasks.

We are sorry that in between the two meetings with Your Excellency some of our colleagues were martyred and therefore are absent. We hope that your guidance and advice will help us in the performance of our duty.

May peace and God's mercy be upon you.

Khomeyni Address

LD082120 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 8 Feb 82

[Speech by Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeyni to 8 February meeting of Majlis deputies at Hoseyniyeh Jamaran -- recorded, duration 27 minutes]

[Excerpts] In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. I express my congratulations on the occasion of the anniversary of the victory of the Islamic revolution and the "dawn 10 days" to all the nation, all the oppressed people of the world, and to you gentlemen who are the excellent examples of this nation. I beseech God Almighty for the success of the entire nation, in order to serve the servants of God, and for their victory. The continuation of the victory and the success of the revolution is something which is more important than other affairs; namely, success will be achieved when the government, the Majlis and those who are in the Majlis are from the middle classes.

You know that in some countries and in our country in the past [words indistinct] an elite and those who had great wealth or who had power ruled to maintain themselves and for their own benefit.

So long as the Majlis and the state organizations, all of them, and the people are from the class of the present Majlis deputies, from among the middle classes, it will be impossible for a powerful government, for a great power to disrupt the situation.

The great powers always made use of one person who engaged in activities for his own sake, for his own power and for his own wealth. The great powers would befriend him and plunder the nation; or, as the saying goes, they befriended the village headman and plundered the village.

Whenever the great powers have faced a united nation they have not been able to carry out their intentions. Whenever they wished to destroy a government, a monarchy or a republic which did not act according to their wishes, they would set up another power in its place and, through that force, they destroyed the previous force. The nation has never been involved. The affairs have not been in the hands of the middle classes and middle class (?rulers).

The things which they did has a psychological basis; namely, [words indistinct]. When a superpower satisfies the spiritual and material needs of that person and maintains his power and his domination over his nation, then he is no longer bound to work for his own nation; because he belongs to the wealthy and powerful classes and because power and wealth has no limits. In order to maintain his power and in order to maintain the power which supports him, he puts all the wealth and dignity of the nation at his disposal, in order to receive a small share of it himself.

At the moment, you can see that there are such powerful and wealthy individuals in the world that if they wealth were to be divided among our country's 36 million people, all our 36 million people would be well off and would become members of the so-called upper classes. This is the wealth of one person.

We must remember, our nation must remember. We have a Majlis composed of people from the middle class. We no longer have titled individuals in the Majlis. The same fact applies to the government. There are no longer big capitalists in the government; nor do we have any lieutenant generals, enjoying (?great affluence) and owning multistory buildings. Therefore, the country is secure.

There was a time when each one of you was (?trying) to move up from your middle class position to affluence. You were either trying to acquire power or (?property). The people must take note of this situation and try to put those individuals who might want to entertain such ideas in their place. If the nation intends to achieve the victory aspired to by everyone, then it must take care and watch the government; it must watch the president or the Majlis members, lest they try to move from their middle class position to a higher and more affluent position.

You must remember that with a government, as with a nation, with a Majlis such as the one we have, if a country decides to invade us it will be facing millions of people; it will fail. It will fail to find a powerful person to (?dominate) the people, to plunder the people for that country's sake. This has been the case in history.

As long as we maintain this moderate line, our republic will be safe. Under such circumstances, a confrontation between the big powers and our government will be impossible. Assuming they plan to stage a coup d'etat, how are they going to do it? Assuming they plan to stage one from abroad, then who are they to face? They will be facing a nation that has fostered this movement with great strength and power. Before big powers launch such an action they always make the necessary studies. What they intend to do now is to concoct a situation and create discord and subsequently find someone to take a stand; then build him up, so that the country will grow weak, the people will become demoralized and eventually present the country to them.

As long as our country is free from an influential elite class, as long as our country is run by people like you, by individuals like the president, the Majlis speaker, the prime minister and Cabinet ministers and MP's, you can rest assured that no foreign power will be able to destroy our victory. However, the day any deviation is demonstrated by the Majlis -- a deviation aimed at seeking power and wealth -- by Cabinet ministers and by the president, then the signals for our defeat will have emerged. These things must then be stopped at once. It is up to the people themselves to stop a president who intends to rule the country as a king.

We must remember, we were either in exile, in prison or in isolation. It was the people who saved us and put us in our choice place. We must remember that we are the same people who were in jails, in exile or in isolation. It was the people who ended all this. Even if we continue to serve them to the end of our lives we will not manage to repay them. May God help us to serve these people.

May God grant you, grant us all, the opportunity to serve the people, being the greatest service to God. May God either rehabilitate or [word indistinct] those who intend to return this country and the Muslims to a state of isolation or bring them under domination. God bless you all.

AIR FORCE COMMANDER COMMEMORATES 8 FEB MUTINY

LD081538 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 8 Feb 82

[Speech by Col Mohammad Hasan Mo'inpur, commander of the Air Force of the Islamic Republic of Iran, at 8 February ceremony marking the third anniversary of the air force mutiny in Tehran -- recorded]
[Excerpts] Greetings to the martyrs of the revolution and of the imposed war. We thank God Almighty for giving us the opportunity to be received in audience by his eminence [Khomeyni] on the eve of the third anniversary of the revolution's victory. The personnel of the air force have the pleasure of tracing this opportunity to reaffirm their allegiance to the commander in chief, to the leader, to revive the memory of 8 February 1979 and of the historical march of that day. This humble person asks permission to convey a message of greetings and congratulation from the personnel of the air force to the nation's imam.

The bloodthirsty regime of Pahlavi, like a blood-sucking vampire, for years sucked the blood of this oppressed nation. The entire society was suppressed and censored. The Pahlavi regime plundered this deprived nation under the leadership of world-devouring imperialism, led by the United States. No one was able to cry out or assert himself in such a dark atmosphere. The committed Muslims, led by the clergy, could no longer remain a passive witness to this situation. They could not tolerate or submit to the United States. Why, because the Yazid of the era [a Sunni khalif who killed the Shi'ite Imam Hoseyn], the treacherous Mohammad Reza, had sold the entire country. Iran was no longer independent. It was on the verge of becoming a U.S. state. People were wondering what to do, what would happen, and what destiny was awaiting them.

Oh dear and great imam, Iran's Armed Forces, especially the air force personnel, resigned and withdrew their services to the previous regime on 8 February 1979, and by submitting to their great leader cut themselves from Satan and joined God.

The personnel of the air force were witnessing how youths were being martyred by that regime and felt the dirty American pressure on their necks. They felt and saw the American advisers who had penetrated their bodies like cancer. They witnessed how the wealth of this deprived nation was pouring into the pockets of the colonialists and their servants and accepted the imam's invitation and, by joining the nation's masses, aimed their weapons at the savage regime of Pahlavi to serve in their historical role. With the will of God Almighty and the determined leadership of his eminence, and with the resistance of the martyr-nurturing people of Iran who gave more than 60,000 martyrs and 100,000 invalids, the glorious Islamic revolution of Iran achieved its victory on the destiny-making day of 11 February 1979 and the hands of the criminals were cut from our homeland and many of them reached the destiny they deserved for their dirty crimes. A number of them took refuge with their masters and, God willing, they too will reach the same destiny.

In the last 3 years, the world devourer, America, and its agents lost no time in breaking this revolution, and through the internal counterrevolution and by initiating the imposed war they planned to silence this light of God, which is going to enlighten the entire region.

Dear great imam, during the past 3 years, as you are aware, Iran has presented the revolution with many of its beloved ones. Iran has given a lot of sacred blood, has donated many valuable martyrs, martyrs as the imam said, unprecedented in the history of Islam. Martyrs such as Ayatollah Beheshti and 72 other persons. Martyrs Raja'i and Bahonar, Ayatollah Madani and Ayatollah Dastgheyb and thousands of other martyrs.

But, as you said, the more they kill the more our nation becomes aware. This sacred blood will help to swell the revolution's current and will make our nation more prepared for devotion and sacrifices. Here I ask for permission to inform you of the progress the Air Force of the Islamic Republic of Iran has made during the past 3 days and during the imposed war.

The mercenary Saddam thought he could play the role previously played by the defunct shah in the region by attacking Iran. He thought he would be facing an open country with no gates. He never thought Iran is a homeland of lions, a homeland of valiant people who are devotees at night and lions during the day.

From the very start of the war, the Air Force of the Islamic Republic of Iran recognized its sacred task of guarding the Islamic revolution along with other combatant forces. Therefore, on the first day of the war, by flying more than 140 fighter aircraft, we turned Saddam's day into a dark night. On that day our air force gave Saddam a crushing lesson. Most of the Iraqi military centers were aimed at and the bravery shown by our pilots was such that enemy and foreign broadcasts were forced to confess the fact. During the past 17 months of the war the clergy and the air force personnel, including officers, NCO's and employees, along with other combatant forces, tried day and night to serve the imam and the selfless nation of Iran. The air force, with the help of God Almighty and of its great leader's prayers, has been able to bring down over 180 enemy aircraft. Most Iraqi military and economic centers have been aimed at, thus paralyzing the Iraqi regime's economy while guarding the blue sky of Iran. And with technical complication, technical complication [Mo'inpur repeats himself] of aircraft, radar and missile systems, and in spite of a shortage of spare parts, the air force has been able to maintain its combat ability. We have been able to manufacture most of the spares for aircraft and other systems and the air force has carried out the missions entrusted to it to the best of its ability. I can inform the dear leader that the air force is currently at its best combat level and if the commander in chief of the armed forces given his permission, it will level Saddam's palace. Thank God, there is complete and full coordination between the air force, the army, the navy and the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps.

We are always on guard to carry out the necessary missions entrusted to us together with other forces. We are sincerely grateful for the participation of the honorable and dear president in today's ceremony. With greetings to our commander in chief and to our dear and great leader, we repeat our ever-lasting prayer three times.

KHAMENE'I CONDEMNS UNDERMINING OF ARMY MORALE

LD081448 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 8 Feb 82

[Speech by President Seyyed 'Ali Khamene'i to senior air force personnel, in the presence of Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeyni, on 8 February at Hoseyniyeh Jamaran -- recorded]

[Excerpts] In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. Greetings to the brave martyrs of the air force and to all the martyrs of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic.

Over the past 3 years, since the formation of the Islamic Republic's Armed Forces, a variety of conspiracies have been hatched to bring about the disintegration of the army. The greatest factor in the protection of the committed Islamic Republic's Armed Forces is constituted by your own awareness. As you have already shown, you should consider yourselves as part of the revolution and you should consider the revolution to be a part of you. The main difference between the armed forces today and the way they were in the past is that in the past the armed forces served one person, whereas now you are working for God. You are working to achieve the great aims of the Islamic revolution. If you are killed and martyred, it is for this purpose; if you survive, you will live proudly in the service of this goal. This is something that very few armies in the world today enjoy. With such commitment and awareness, and with a feeling of great closeness to the nation you should continue to carry out your important and difficult tasks. I do not think that there is any other army in the world which is as popular with the nation as you are. All over the world, armies are imposed on the people. However, you are the servants of the people and the people realize this. This is of supreme value to a great military organization.

Within the armed forces, it is those who try to weaken the morale of the personnel, who try to make the faithful and committed military personnel have a cynical attitude toward the future of the revolution, who want to weaken the strong foundations of faith in the minds of the selfless and loyal military personnel who are the real enemies of the armed forces. They are the enemies of the armed forces over and above being enemies of the revolution. This revolution succeeded without the armed forces. The fighting force of each revolution originates from within it. What would be damaged by these propaganda campaigns is the well-equipped and popular organization of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran. Today, any conspiracy, any lie, any rumor spread by the enemies of the Islamic Republic anywhere in society, including within the armed forces, is harmful to the body from which it originates.

I bring you, dear brothers who are gathered here to commemorate that glorious and proud day, good tidings that the future of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran will be a bright and proud one. Dear military brothers, especially the youths who are walking this path with enthusiasm, you should know that a bright and hopeful future awaits you, the armed forces and your revolution. You have shattered the hopes of the enemy and boosted the hopes of your friends. This is a great honor before God. The nation loves you and you make sacrifices for the nation. The same world [as heard] which spreads rumors against you, against the revolution and against this nation respects this nation and the committed and courageous combatants of this nation since it is the armed forces and the nation which have gained independence and are now standing on their own feet.

I hope that the third anniversary of 8 February will bring us the promise of further progress and more honor. I will say no more and ask his eminence the imam to advise us with his edifying words and guide us to the ways of God. Peace be upon you.

MILITARY SPOKESMAN DENIES IRAQI BATTLE CLAIMS

NC072003 Paris AFP in English 1937 GMT 7 Feb 82

[Text] Tehran, 7 Feb (AFP) -- Iranian military headquarters today denied an Iraqi claim that Iranian forces had been pushed back from positions in the Bostan area of the southern Khuzestan front.

An Iranian military spokesman told AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE today that the Iraqi claims were "just propaganda."

An official Iranian communique, meanwhile, said that an Iraqi offensive had been "repulsed on the southern front on Saturday."

The communique added that "the battle continues on this front while artillery battles are continuing on most of the others."

ARMED FORCES JOINT STAFF COMMUNIQUE 783

LD071722 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 7 Feb 82

[Communique 783 of the Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran]

[Text] In His exalted name. Dear Muslim compatriots of Iran: The bravery, devotion and self-sacrifice of the combatants of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran continue at a very strong pitch in order to defeat the Saddamist aggressors and gain the final victory. During the past 24 hours this self-sacrifice and bravery achieved the following results:

Yesterday fighting continued on most of the southern fronts with exchange of artillery and other heavy-weapon fire.

On one of the southern fronts, the invading enemy launched a series of operations as a last-ditch effort; but, through the bravery of warriors of the ground forces and our other self-sacrificing combatants, the enemy movements were foiled and the misguided Saddamist forces retreated to their defensive positions after suffering some loss and damages. Intensive fighting continues on this front.

Yesterday, long-range enemy artillery fire damaged some residential districts of Abadan, wounding several people.

On the western fronts, the combatants of the armed forces continued their artillery fire. Our forces opened heavy-weapon fire on the enemy positions and defended their own allocated regions and guarded their own positions. No accurate information is available on the level of enemy losses and damage on these fronts.

The brave combatants of the gendarmerie on the Ilam fronts opened heavy fire on enemy positions at 1400 yesterday and succeeded in destroying more than six slit trenches and observation posts of the aggressors. Six enemy troops were also killed.

On the Shur-e Shirin front, our combatants set fire to and destroyed three slit trenches, two car parks and one supply center.

During fighting on 4 and 5 February, 16 self-sacrificing warriors of the Ground Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran gained the exalted status of martyrdom. May their souls be happy and may their paths lead to victory.

ARMED FORCES JOINT STAFF COMMUNIQUE 784

LD081754 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 8 Feb 82

[Communique 784 of the Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran]

[Text] In His exalted name. The Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran, with hearts full of faith, united and alongside each other, with a mutual aim to defend Islam and the Islamic homeland and destroy the enemies of Islam, are marching to victory.

During the past 24 hours, the combatants on one of the southern fronts blocked a second attempt by the enemy to penetrate our forces' positions and inflicted new losses and casualties on them. The operations of our glorious forces to crush the aggressors continue on that front and will be brought to your attention later. During this period, the alert antiaircraft units repelled enemy aircraft overflights on the southern fronts.

Yesterday Saddam's army, using heavy, long-range weapons, destroyed a number of residential areas in Abadan, wounding a number of inhabitants.

In the Meymak, Salehabad, Sumar and Sar-e Pol-e Zahab sectors, exchanges of fire continued. Our artillery shelled enemy positions, preventing enemy movements and destroying a number of enemy vehicles, trenches and foxholes. Also, thanks to our artillery fire, enemy movements in (?Kashtar Kishki), Anjireh, Zelaleh, (?Talkhab) and Serahi-ye Naftshar were stymied.

During the battles on 7 February, two personnel of the ground forces were martyred. May their memories be dear.

SPOKESMAN DENOUNCES WEINBERGER MIDEAST TRIP

LD081128 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 8 Feb 82

[Text] The spokesman of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, in a contact with the Central News Unit, announced the stance of the Islamic Republic of Iran with regard to Caspar Weinberger and his trip to several Arab countries in the Middle East, and said: American imperialism has once again concocted a new plan in connection with the Middle East region and Caspar Weinberger's trip to several Arab countries. His meetings and discussions with the leaders of these subservient countries in fact reflect the evil intentions of world-devouring America to establish and secure the continuity of its presence in this part of the world.

Obviously, its opposition to the Islamic revolution of Iran on the baseless pretext of the Islamic Republic of Iran's direct and indirect interferences in other countries comes on top of the list of objectives behind this trip.

The aggressive America, while deceitfully announcing its neutrality with regard to the imposed war, because it finds its interests threatened in the wake of the recent victories of the Iranian combatants in the war against the forces of the mercenary Saddam, by quietly travelling to Jordan and supporting King Husayn, actually confirms his recent action in connection with this war. On the other hand, travelling to Saudi Arabia and Jordan emphasizes the point that the Gulf Cooperation Council has been created to form blocs and has become a helpless instrument in fulfilling the evil intentions of American imperialism.

It is necessary to emphasize once again that any unity aiming at protecting the interests of the Muslim and oppressed people is supported and backed by the Islamic Republic of Iran. However, if this unity walks the path of protecting the interests and aims of superpowers it will in effect be standing in opposition to us and we will resist it.

We hope that the countries of the region come to recognize and understand the main enemy of the region, which is the occupying regime in Jerusalem, and its boss, American imperialism, and by forming a real unity force the enemy out of Islamic territories and establish real peace and security in the region.

DELEGATIONS LEAVE ON TOUR TO EXPLAIN REVOLUTION

GF060545 Tehran International Service in Arabic 0400 GMT 6 Feb 82

[Text] Seven more Iranian delegations left for various countries yesterday to explain the achievements of Iran's Islamic revolution to Muslims and other people in these countries. The seven delegations will visit Sri Lanka, Bangladesh, Malaysia, Singapore, Thailand, Spain, Portugal, Greece, Argentina, Brazil, Sierra Leone, the Soviet Union, the PRC, Hong Kong, Japan, Somalia, Kenya, Mauritius, Madagascar and a number of African countries.

Further on Delegations

LD082214 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 2030 GMT 8 Feb 82

[Text] According to a TASS report from Moscow, a delegation from the Islamic Republic of Iran to the USSR, led by Energy Minister Hasan Ghafurifard, today met with the Soviet energy minister and talked about bilateral relations.

Also, according to a report by the Central News Unit, Mr Parvaresh, minister of education and training and his delegation left for the Democratic People's Republic of Korea on the occasion of the third anniversary of the victory of the Islamic revolution of Iran. He arrived in Beijing yesterday. Today, he met with the Chinese minister of education and training and talked with him about educational exchanges.

The Iranian delegation sent to Romania today met and talked with President Nicolae Ceausescu. In this meeting, which lasted for 3 and 1/2 hours, Mr Jasemi, the head of the Iranian delegation, while explaining the special characteristics of the Islamic revolution of Iran, pointed out the viewpoints of the Iranian Government.

ENERGY MINISTER VISITS USSR; RECEIVED BY KUZNETSOV

For Soviet reportage on the visit of Energy Minister Hasan Ghafurifard to the USSR, see page H 1 of the 9 February Soviet Union DAILY REPORT and subsequent issues.

'AZIZI COMMENTS IN MEXICO ON U.S., ARMS, OIL

FL090215 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 0020 GMT 9 Feb 82

[Text] Mexico City, 8 Feb (NOTIMEX) -- Iranian Deputy Foreign Minister Ahmad 'Azizi said today on arriving in Mexico that the United States is the biggest enemy in the world. He said that the purpose of his visit is to explain to the Mexican Government the revolutionary process underway in this Middle East country. The visitor said: "There is an Islamic revolution which is struggling for its total independence both from the West and from the East." He added that Iran has been the victim of political plots and of bad propaganda from both sides. The history of the Iranian revolution has not excluded struggle with the United States. The United States has tried to end the Soviet aid to Iran since before the departure of the shah; however, 3 years after this revolution it is continuing with the same policy, falsifying the real situation of the country, as the Israelis and the Zionists are also doing.

'Azizi said that he is a member of one of the most varied delegations that has left Iran to explain the motive of its revolution.

He said that this was an opportunity to talk with the Mexican Government and express Iran's viewpoints on many international issues.

He added that Iraq has attacked Iran, yet Iran has been made to look as an aggressive nation; however, the basis of the problem is that Iraq refuses to withdraw to its borders, therefore the war continues.

He said that Iran has not bought arms from Moscow. During the shah's rule the arms came from the United States. That is one of the many intrigues used by the United States in its intervention, he said.

He said that the Islamic revolution seeks the total liberation of man and therefore petroleum is used as a political weapon against nations which use economic pressures against poor countries. For this reason an oil embargo was declared against the United States and its collaborators.

VELAYATI REVIEWS UN TRIP, OTHER TOPICS

GF090910 Tehran International Service in Arabic 0400 GMT 9 Feb 82

[Text] Foreign Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati informed the Cabinet yesterday about the results of his trip to New York, where he participated in the emergency session of the UN General Assembly. He also visited Yugoslavia and the FRG.

Following the Cabinet meeting, the foreign minister stated: We participated in the emergency session of the UN General Assembly in order to denounce the Zionist entity for its annexation of the Golan Heights to the other occupied territories.

He added: The Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran demands that the Zionist entity and the United States be isolated politically. He continued: Most countries of the world strongly denounced the Zionist entity's decision on the Golan annexation and the U.S. support for it.

He noted: The Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran has repeatedly stressed that the only way to confront the Zionist entity lies in the unification of Islamic ranks. The lack of unity does not prevent Iran from being present in international organizations and expressing its views.

Dr Velayati referred to the latest resolution issued by the Persian Gulf Cooperation Council about severing ties with Iran. He noted: The person who made this statement, as a member in the said council, is not a spokesman for the member countries in this council because these countries -- or at least two of them -- objected to this resolution.

Mr Velayati talked about the unfounded media campaigns of Shah Husayn about deployment of Jordanian troops to help Saddam's regime. He said: Shah Husayn, who has adopted the most treacherous stands toward the Muslims, has no standing among the Muslim masses. He added: The Jordanian regime has provided all the aid it could to prevent the collapse of Saddam. Moreover, the Jordanian regime created this issue in order to launch psychological warfare.

He referred to Iraq's unfounded claims about the number of Iranian prisoners of war in Iraq saying: If we add the number of those killed to the number of prisoners, according to these claims, then we would have no more forces.

The foreign minister announced the number of Iranian prisoners of war in Iraq as less than 3,000, refuting Saddam's claims on this issue.

Mr Velayati also referred to the media campaign of the Iraqi aggressors and their claim to have reoccupied some Iranian territory. Denying the allegation, he called on correspondents and photographers to visit the areas which Iraq claims to have occupied and observe the situation firsthand.

TEHRAN ON IRAQI-EGYPTIAN DEALS, RELATIONS

GF081945 Tehran International Service in Arabic 0400 GMT 8 Feb 82

[Unattributed commentary]

[Excerpts] Baghdad's executioner, Taha al-Jazrawi, has admitted the generous aid the Egyptian regime is offering to his wornout regime. Figures show that there are 12,000 Egyptian soldiers on the battlefront. Al-Jazrawi has also praised the brave and noble Jordanian stand. He has called upon other Arab regimes to follow Egypt and Jordan by sending volunteers to help his collapsing regime.

The deal announced by Al-Jazrawi is the second half of the $25-million deal his regime signed with As-Sadat last year. In accordance with this agreement, Iraq was sent 12,000 tons of various weapons. With every Egyptian soldier, As-Sadat sent a ton of various Soviet-made arms in order to fulfill the deal in a manner that would please his friends in Baghdad.

The announcement of the presence of these Egyptian forces was timed with the Iraqi envoy's visit to Egypt. During this visit, the Iraqi envoy met with Mubarak's foreign minister, Butrus Ghali, and gave him a message from his friend, Sa'dun Hammadi. News agencies reported nothing about this meeting except that it had something to do with inviting Egypt to attend the Nonaligned conference. The rest of the issues discussed were ignored by news agencies and radios.

Al-Jazrawi's statement follows Na'im Haddad's statement in Kuwait in which he talked about Mubarak's kindness and gallantry. This statement provided the appropriate background for the Ba'thist official to meet with Butrus Ghali and give him a message from the Saddamist regime's Foreign Ministry. It seems from this move and these statements that a certain political deal has been signed between the Iraqi and Egyptian regimes in exchange for arms and Egyptian soldiers, in addition to the $25 million the Iraqi regime paid As-Sadat last year. This intensive and successive move represents the nature of the relationship that exists between the Iraqi and Egyptian regimes -- a relationship that handles things in complete secrecy.

Some secret reports say that Shapur Bakhtiar, who visited Egypt several days ago, was the intermediary between Baghdad and Cairo and that he was the principal factor in improving relations between the two regimes. However, we see that the two regimes' bilateral relations were good before Bakhtiar made his visit and even before Mubarak came to power -- that is, since As-Sadat's time. When As-Sadat noted in his speeches that some Arab states supported him secretly but could not declare their passion and friendship, he meant Iraq, because its regime supports him in all situations. It is only now that the rulers of this regime can expose the passion and friendship they had in their hearts for As-Sadat and his regime.

This intimate cohesion is confirmed by the Egyptian arms deals, the Saddamist regime's disregard for all Arab resolutions to boycott As-Sadat and its insistence on dealing with the Egyptian regime on all levels.

After feeling that their relations with Egypt were no longer a secret, Baghdad's rulers announced this relationship in the hope of achieving new gains through this announcement. They forgot about the treacheries As-Sadat and his successor Mubarak committed against the Islamic nation. These treacheries still bring shame to the Egyptian regime. They even forgot about the role played by Mubarak's regime in supporting the usurping Zionist entity. His latest support for this enemy was his alliance with it in the UN General Assembly when voting on the resolution to denounce Israel for annexing the Syrian Golan Heights.

U.S. POLICY ON ISRAEL, SAUDIS 'CONTRADICTORY'

GF081819 Tehran International Service in Arabic 1100 GMT 8 Feb 82

[Commentary: "The [word indistinct] of U.S.-Saudi Love"]

[Text] There has not been much time between [words indistinct] at the UN Security Council [words indistinct] the resolution calling for sanctions against the Zionist enemy for annexing the Syrian Golan Heights and the visit of the U.S. secretary of defense to Riyadh yesterday. After having seen the United States' open bias toward and aggressive support for the Zionist entity during the discussions at the United Nations, the peoples of the world are now seeing the U.S. secretary of defense land in the Arabian Peninsula and be warmly welcomed by the Peninsula's Saudi rulers.

The Saudi defense and aviation minister describes his talks with his American counterpart as talks between friends. This friendship and love reached its zenith recently at the UN Security Council, where the United States vetoed a resolution calling for sanctions against the Zionist enemy. With what logic do the rulers of the Arabian Peninsula speak, and how do they treat imperialists, Zionists and colonialists, who have declared war against Islam and Muslims?

The world saw the Provisional Government of the Islamic Republic fall, because the prime minister [Mehdi Bazargan] merely met with Brzezinski in Algeria. For this reason, the Muslim people of Iran toppled the government and instituted the revolutionary Islamic alternative that does not accept compromise or [word indistinct].

The rulers of the Arabian Peninsula, who claim to be Arab and Muslim and falsely and unjustly claim to be waging a jihad to liberate Palestine and Jerusalem, are impudently welcoming one of the archenemies of Islam in Riyadh at this critical period in which the United States is supporting the Zionist entity with all its might and strength and is threatening to withdraw its subsidies to the United Nations if it should pass a resolution on punishing Israel.

The Saudi regime's defense minister says that the United States is a good friend. The reasons that prompted the Saudis to make these statements and fall completely into the United States' lap are demonstrated by the latest military statistics reported by news agencies on U.S. assistance to the Saudis.

Although there are more than 10,000 U.S. military advisers and experts in the Arabian Peninsula, the U.S. Pentagon sold the Saudi rulers $34-billion worth of weapons between 1976 and 1980. In 1981, the Pentagon also sold the Saudis $15.7-billion worth of military hardware and aircraft. The U.S. Congress recently approved the sale of $15.7-billion worth of weapons to Saudi Arabia in 1982.

The United States intends to build four airbases, two naval bases and a large military command center in the Arabian Peninsula in the next 4 years. This is in addition to its plan to build a great defense network, which will be operated by American experts, within the next 5 years.

The question is: Why this U.S. military interest in the Arabian Peninsula and the Saudi rulers? Does the United States really want to protect the Peninsula's oilfields, or does it want to defend the holy mosques in Mecca and Medina in the American way? Do these U.S. measures stem from Reagan's profound love for the Peninsula's Muslim people?

If the answer is yes, is it logical for the United States to support both the Zionist enemy that has usurped Palestine and the Muslim people of the Arabian Peninsula at the same time? How then does the United States direct its foreign policy?

Don't the rulers of Saudi Arabia, Oman and Jordan claim to be confronting the Zionist enemy and its plots? Didn't the call for jihad emanate from the subservient Fahd, the tribe's crown prince? Why then this contradiction in U.S. policy toward Saudi Arabia and the Zionist entity?

These questions confront us with a crystal-clear fact -- the United States is pursuing this contradictory policy because of its interests. The oil that flows from the Arabian Peninsula's oil wells, the Peninsula's strategic position, its financial wealth and the Islamic revolution in the region are all factors that require this U.S. scenario in dealing with the Peninsula's rulers and sultans. There is no real love on the part of the U.S. Government toward the region's rulers and sultans. The United States' love is centered on the oil and wealth that lies in our Muslim region.

If the rulers want further clarification of this fact, let them try to stop the supply of oil to the United States -- even for 1 day. When the U.S. Government loses approximately 25 million barrels of oil a day, the truth about that deep love and close friendship with the United States, which the Saudi defense and aviation minister speaks of, will emerge.

GULF RULERS ACCUSED OF USING SECURITY AS EXCUSE

GF051426 Abadan NIOC Radio in Arabic 0830 GMT 5 Feb 82

[Commentary entitled: "The Reactionary Rulers Want to Liquidate Liberation Movements]

[Text] The issue of Gulf security emerged some time ago. It was put forward more seriously following the triumph of Iran's Islamic revolution. Interest on and emphasis on this issue increased following the widescale mass action in the Gulf and following Afghanistan's occupation by Soviet forces. Although Gulf rulers have different ideas about Gulf security, under the guise of protecting the Gulf and its security they are seeking to liquidate the activity of the masses in the area that threaten their regimes. In other words, Gulf security does not mean fear of the United States, which is plundering the region's wealth. Nor does it mean fear of the Soviet Union, which has ambitions in the Gulf. Gulf security means fear of the rebelling Gulf people, which threaten the regimes' security and the superpowers' ambitions. Gulf security, in the view of the Gulf's reactionary rulers, means the liquidation of Islamic activity in the Gulf. The recent events in Bahrain -- and the facts of these events have been falsified -- is the best proof that the Gulf rulers are acting in the direction of fighting their people under the guise of Gulf security.

The event began with the arrest of scores of young men who believe in Islam and its just system, which accepts submission only to God Almighty. This took place in Dubai [as heard]. They were accused of plotting to carry out acts of sabotage in Bahrain on its independence day. Government sources said that they were intending to stage a revolution on the model of the Islamic revolution in Iran and proclaim an Islamic republic in Bahrain. The government sources added that the saboteurs' target was not only Bahrain but also included all the Gulf countries.

The fact is that this group of mujahidin was intending to carry out actions against the Iraqi Government and its corrupt regime, which aims to demolish Islam and kill Muslims, and was not necessarily intending to carry out its actions in the Gulf countries. However, the Gulf authorities arrested approximately 60 persons. This was followed by a terrorist campaign in all of the Gulf countries. In Bahrain the authorities launched a widescale campaign of arrests that included more than 1,000 people in a country whose population does not exceed 300,000. The Bahraini Government searched every house in some quarters looking for explosives. In the Arabian Peninsula [Saudi Arabia] the eastern province was surrounded by thousands of soldiers who arrested scores of Muslims who rebelled against the country's evil regime. The State of Kuwait, the statelet of Qatar and the UAE did the same.

What happened in Bahrain and the exaggeration, activity and statements of Gulf officials that accompanied it has more than one significance.

First, it appears that the Islamic movement in the Gulf rejects these corrupt and backward regimes and seeks to change the bad situation these regimes have created.

Second, Gulf moves in support of the Bahraini Government and the security agreement among the Gulf Cooperation Council countries have been confronted by the unity of the masses. Just as unbelievers belong to the same faith, Muslim people must be a single nation with faith. According to the statements of the Al Khalifah regime those arrested numbered 60 persons of various nationalities: 45 Bahrainis, 13 from the Arabian Peninsula, 1 Kuwaiti and an Omani. Omani participation calls for optimism.

Third, recent events demonstrated the weakness of the Gulf regimes and the instability of internal security in the Gulf countries. This led them to act blindly against 60 saboteurs, as they claim -- while it is known that anyone who wants to carry out sabotage acts does not move in large groups. This proves that many of those arrested have no connection with what happened.

Fourth, as we have said, the operation was intended to be against Iraqi targets. Therefore, the security moves by Iraqi Ba'thist institutions demonstrate the hatred of the Gulf Muslims for the Iraqi Ba'thist regime that has imposed itself on the Muslim people of Iraq and their hatred for the rotten Gulf regimes that support it.

We leave the interpretation of the claims made by the rulers of these regimes to the conscience of free peoples, for they are capable of exposing the truth and responding to those who have made claims and leveled accusations against Islamic Iran without a shred of evidence other than the lies to which they have always been accustomed. "Do not think that God is heedless of what the evildoers do." [Koranic verse]

TEHRAN: SAUDI REGIME GREATEST OBSTACLE TO MUSLIMS

GF080500 Tehran International Service in Turkish 1830 GMT 6 Feb 82

[Unattributed commentary: "The Latest Meeting of the Arab States That Are GCC Members"]

[Text] Dear listeners: International media have been reporting for some time now that oil-producing countries are reducing the price of their oil. The OPEC price for oil was lowered by $2 per barrel for the first time in the history of this organization in November 1980. Since then oil-producing countries have been steadily reducing prices because of pressure brought to bear on them.

The following question comes to mind in the light of this situation: Who is responsible for this pressure and how is it being exerted?

Regrettably, the pressure is being exerted not only by international imperialism but also by the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia from within OPEC itself. The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia has opposed any kind of increase in oil prices for years. Although the regime has endeavored on several occasions, on U.S. orders, to prevent an increase of oil prices, it is a fact that its efforts were unsuccessful.

In the face of the failure of its efforts, the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia resorted to a new tactic: increasing production. Currently, the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia is producing more than 10 million barrels [presumably per day]. Coupled with the unlimited production of Saudi oil is the Kingdom's reluctance to heed decisions made by the majority of oil-producing countries. In fact, the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia is always selling its oil to Western countries at a reduced price.

The natural outcome is that the United States, Japan and the EEC have stockpiled cheap oil from Saudi Arabia, and therefore their demand for oil from the rest of the oil-producing countries has been reduced -- in fact lower than the amount the rest of the oil-producing countries have extracted to date. In the face of this pressure, countries whose economies are based on revenue from oil exports have been forced to reduce their prices in accordance with the wishes of the exploitationist countries.

This state of affairs has dealt a major blow to oil producers during the past 2 years. According to reports by the Bank of Britain [as heard], OPEC's foreign exchange reserves totalled $27.5 billion in the first half of 1981. In the first half of 1980, however, OPEC's foreign exchange reserves totalled $45 billion. The responsibility for the drop because of lower oil prices lies with the pro-American reactionary regimes which have moved to produce unlimited amounts of oil.

Meanwhile, the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia is also trying to use all the abundant resources of the Persian Gulf states against the Islamic Republic of Iran and other revolutionary countries instead of Zionism, which is hostile to the Islamic world. We have been witnessing its efforts in this direction ever since the establishment of the Gulf Cooperation Council [GCC]. The countries referred to are currently meeting the major portion of the West's demand for oil and 90 percent of the oil imported by Japan. By glancing at the figures involved, we arrive at the following conclusion: If these countries were to wage a struggle against the United States and the regime occupying Jerusalem, they would definitely deal hard blows to them.

Instead of placing their millions of dollars at the disposal of pro-American Saddam to be used against their Muslim Iranian brothers as a result of Saudi pressure, wouldn't it be better if these countries utilized their money to create unity and cooperation between Iran and other revolutionary countries with a view to liberating the suffering Palestinians and others from the yoke of Zionism and imperialism? Currently, Saudi officials are opposed to the just demand by Muslim and Arab peoples to use oil as a political weapon. It should be understood that when the regime occupying Jerusalem moved to annex the Golan Heights, the world Muslims had to make a concerted and resolute response against the aggressor in complete solidarity. However, Zaki Yamani prohibited them from adopting strong measures. He is endeavoring to confine the complaints being raised to conferences and slogans that are devoid of seriousness.

As the speaker of the Iranian Majlis has explained, the pro-American Saudi regime is currently the greatest obstacle on the path of the Muslims. Therefore, there should be no cooperation with this regime so long as it maintains its present policy. In fact, an effort should be made to expose its true face to the whole world.

TEHRAN CRITICIZES GCC OIL MINISTERS' AGREEMENT

GF090940 Tehran International Service in Turkish 1830 GMT 8 Feb 82

[Unattributed commentary: "The GCC and Its Pledge on Oil Exports"]

[Excerpts] Dear listeners: According to an IRNA report based on information from a reliable source, the agreement signed by the Gulf Cooperation Council [GCC] oil ministers at the end of their meeting in Riyadh stipulates that if any GCC member fails to produce oil as a result of war, sabotage or disorder, the other GCC members will act to meet that country's domestic needs and fulfill its export requirements. The agreement thus constitutes a guarantee for Western capitalist countries and the United States that no matter what the conditions the West will be supplied with the oil it needs.

Although detailed information has not been released on the provisions of the agreement, it has become obvious that international imperialism has drawn up a long-term plan for Saudi Arabia and other compromising states of the Gulf for dealing with the question of energy. The economic and political measures the United States has taken in the region following the unending blows to its interests indicate that the U.S. imperialists have brought pressure to bear on oil-rich countries and OPEC through Saudi Arabia and the GCC members in order to secure the sale of oil to the West and Japan at a reduced price. Actually, this is the only reason for the unilateral lowering of oil prices and for the intensification of pressure brought to bear on oil-rich countries through the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia during recent months.

By producing 10 to 12 million barrels of oil per day, Saudi Arabia is satisfying the demand on the world market and thus forcing OPEC to agree to the prices favored by the Kingdom. The establishment of oil prices by the GCC, which is the representative of oil cartels and international monopolies, is aimed at diminishing OPEC's influential stand and [words indistinct]. This is on the agenda of international imperialism. Undoubtedly, the compromising Arab states are taking steps toward guaranteeing that the exploitationist targets of international imperialism are achieved.

It should be kept in mind that the necessary coordination between the interests of capitalist countries and those of the compromising aligned regimes were established long ago. Thus, our conclusion regarding the pledge by compromising Arab states to continue to supply oil to international exploitationist entities no matter what the conditions -- even if disorder breaks out in one of the GCC member states -- is that the pledge is aimed at securing aid from the United States and its allies to prevent the overthrow of their reactionary regimes. The fear of these regimes from their own people is something to be taken seriously because the Muslim masses are becoming more and more conscious of the alignment of compromising regimes with international colonialist entities.

GUARDS KILL MOJAHEDIN LEADERS, RAJAVI'S WIFE

LD081854 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 8 Feb 82

[Excerpts] The Central News Unit reports that as a result of the continuous and vigilant efforts by the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps brothers and with the cooperation of the Central Committee and the Mobilization forces, several members of the central cadre of the hypocrites organization, who were hiding in a house in northern Tehran, were arrested or killed this morning during some operations. Musa Khiabani, the number two leader of the organization and its leader inside the country, as well as Ashraf Rabi'i, wife of the fugitive Rajavi, were among those killed in these operations.

The central headquarters of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps issued a statement in this connection as follows:

In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. For a long time now Islamic Iran, relying on God Almighty, has been confronting all the conspiracies of the great Satan and its domestic dregs and is raising with all its might the voice of justice and humanity. Our revolutionary nation, with the unity of word, relaying on monotheism and under Imam Khomeyni's leadership, is determined to expose fully the inhuman crimes and conspiracies of the great Satan, America, and usurping Zionism and to remove their filthy hand from the head of the oppressed people so that, God willing, it may lay the grounds for the establishment of the universal government of Islam, under the leadership of his holiness the lord of the age, may our lives be sacrificed for him.

The fighting Islamic nation of Iran is proud that exactly at a time when it is engaged in a war against the American Saddamists which, with the help of God and the efforts of the fighters, is about to end in victory; it is also waging an unceasing war against American hypocrisy and its criminal mercenary leaders. To date it has shown that on all fronts there can be only honor, pride and victory for the oppressed; and that the fate of all the oppressors and their domestic and foreign mercenaries will be only degradation and death.

During these days, the 10 days of dawn and the 10 days of God's grace and blessing, the self-sacrificing brothers from the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps, with their continuous endeavours, with the assistance of the fighting and self-sacrificing brothers of the Central Islamic Revolution Committee and the heroic forces of the Guards Corps Mobilization fighters, under the guidance of the lord of the age and with God's grace, have succeeded in the powerful "10 Days of Dawn" operations in delivering a fatal blow to the criminal leaders of the hypocrites organization. Many members of the central cadre of this organization, who wrongly believed their organization to be made of steel, were killed.

They showed the world that despite all the propaganda of the united counterrevolutionary front and the imperialist loudspeakers, which declared that the Islamic Republic has come to the end of its life, the fighters of Islam achieved glory. In the powerful "10 Days of Dawn" operations, the guards succeeded in killing figures such as Musa Khiabani, the number one [as heard] of the hypocrites organization and the successor and deputy of the fugitive and treacherous Rajavi; Ashraf Rabi'i, the traitorous wife of the fugitive Rajavi; the criminal wife of Musa Khiabani; and more than 10 of the main leaders of the central cadre of the sham organization. The guards also succeeded in committing them to God's vengeance and wrath and in sending them to hell.

Let us remember that these victories are the results of the blood of wronged martyrs like Ayatollah Beheshti; the martyr in the prayer niche, Ayatollah Madani; and the illustrious Friday imam, Ayatollah Dastgheyb; the popular president and prime minister of our country, the martyred Raja'i and martyred Bahonar; the revolution prosecutor general, the martyred Qoddusi; and hundreds of other martyrs.

Today, when the hypocrites organization has been smashed, the struggling and vigilant nation should, as in the past, keep under observation all the activities and conduct of these deceived individuals and report suspicious cases to the information department of the Guards Corps, telephone Nos 831111 and 837799. Further information and details will be announced in subsequent statements for the information of the fighting nation.

Rest assured that God's assistance is with us and, according to the words of the imam: "What makes our hearts warm is the assistance which God Almighty, the all-blessed, vouchsafes to us." We have not had, do not have and will not have any strength of our own. Everything is from God. May God's greetings and blessings be upon you. "Victory belongs to the righteous." [Koranic verse]

In conclusion, we must express our praise to the great martyr of these successful operations, the martyred guard Abolqasem Dehlavi who was also a member of the Islamic Committee, and beseech God for an exalted position for him.

KURDS CLASH WITH GUARDS IN AZARBAYJAN

LD062104 Tehran IRNA in English 1821 GMT 6 Feb 82

[Text] Tehran, 6 Feb (IRNA) -- Twenty insurgents were killed and some others were wounded or arrested Friday when a group of illegally armed elements clashed with the joint forces of the army and the Islamic revolutionary guards near Miando'ab, West Azarbayjan.

This was announced by the central headquarters of the Islamic revolutionary guards (IRGC), adding that the counterrevolutionaries were members of the outlawed Kordestan Democratic Party.

CLANDESTINE REPORTS ON FIGHTING IN KORDESTAN

NC060024 (Clandestine) Free Voice of Iran in Persian to Iran 1500 GMT 5 Feb 82

[Text] A Free Voice of Iran correspondent reports from Kordestan that an army column sent from Baneh to Sar Dasht is surrounded by the Kurdish peshmerga. The brave Kurdish peshmerga, who are trying to prevent an attack against their brothers in the armed forces, are trying with harassing gunfire to prevent the column from moving. The Kurdish peshmerga have told the Free Voice of Iran correspondent that they do not want to confront their brothers in the armed forces and that because of this they have asked the officers, NCO's and privates of this column moving from Baneh to Sar Dasht to join the Kurdish combatants and to fight next to them against Khomeyni's hirelings. The Kurdish peshmerga have announced that their targets are Khomeyni's revolution guards and, therefore, they are refraining from a direct attack on their brothers in the armed forces.

In another report from Kordestan, the Free Voice of Iran correspondent reports that on Sunday the Kurdish peshmerga carried out a lightning attack on Sanandaj and controlled the city for 6 hours. In this attack, 36 of Khomeyni's hireling revolution guards were killed and a large number were taken captive by the brave Kurdish combatants. Following this successful attack, the combatants left Sanandaj to avoid bloodshed and the massacre of the city's innocent people by Khomeyni's forces and returned to their bases. The occupied newspapers and the regime's disgraceful radio and television network have not reported this.

In another report from Kordestan, our correspondent reports that the men of a column of Khomeyni's revolution guards in Uramanat moving toward the Iraq battlefronts died after becoming lost in a severe snowstorm.

VOICE OF IRAN REPORTS ON SITUATION IN NORTH

GF051804 (Clandestine) Voice of Iran in Persian 0330 GMT 4 Feb 82

[Text] Voice of Iran correspondents report from northern Iran that most of the roads in the northern region are under the control of the armed guards. These mercenaries are checking all the transportation [word indistinct]. Whoever is not carrying identity cards will immediately be handed over to the regional committees. According to our correspondents, even though the guards have full control over the roads, these ruffians have refused to go near the forests. Our correspondents add that most of the freedom fighters, following the successful attack on Amol last week, have returned to their bases in the forests and have fortified their positions.

AFP REPORTS EXECUTIONS IN KURDISH CAPITAL

NC071644 Paris AFP in English 1519 GMT 7 Feb 82

[Text] Tehran, 7 Feb (AFP) -- Nine members of the outlawed Islamic left-wing People's Mojahedin organisation were executed in the Iranian Kurdish capital of Sanandaj, the daily ISLAMIC REPUBLIC reported here today.

They were found guilty by a local revolutionary court of taking part in "armed confrontations and various bomb attacks" in the north-eastern Iranian city, the newspaper said.

It did not say when the executions took place. The Iranian press reported several times over the past few months that the People's Mojahedin were taking part in the activities in Kordestan of the Iranian Kurdish Democratic Party (IKDP) and the "Komeleh" group.

CLANDESTINE REPORTS EXECUTIONS IN REZA'IYEH

GF061702 (Clandestine) Free Voice of Iran in Persian to Iran 1500 GMT 6 Feb 82

[Text] According to a Free Voice of Iran correspondent's report from Reza'iyeh, last Thursday 13 opponents of Khomeyni's antinational regime were executed in Reza'iyeh and 2 other cities of West Azarbayjan. Several 14-year olds and an elderly man were among those executed.

According to the same report, Khomeyni's antinational regime has prohibited the publication of this news.

FORMER CHIEF OF STAFF PLANNING ANTIREGIME ACTION

GF061245 (Clandestine) Voice of Iran in Persian 0330 GMT 6 Feb 82

[Text] The Voice of Iran correspondent, citing well-informed sources in London, reports that General Jam, former chief of staff of the Iranian Armed Forces, will soon start extensive activities to topple Khomeyni's regime. The well-informed sources add that General Jam's activities will start following the invitation made by Dr 'Ali Amini, the former Iranian premier. Dr Amini had invited all anti-Khomeyni political and military groups to unite and join the Iran Liberation Front. They should cooperate in the struggle against Iran's clerical regime. The same sources reported that General Jam, who has wide support in the Iranian Army, has started to establish [word indistinct] forces in Iran.

BAKHTIAR INTERVIEWED ON IRANIAN OPPOSITION

LD072358 Paris Domestic Service in French 1130 GMT 7 Feb 82

["Magazine-45" program interview with former Prime Minister Shapur Bakhtiar -- live or recorded]

[Excerpts] [Question] Magazine-45 has invited Shapur Bakhtiar, the last prime minister of the Iranian monarchist regime -- but not of the shah: Mr Bakhtiar, I think that you insist on the difference?

[Answer] Absolutely.

[Question] Mr Bakhtiar: In 3 days' time it will be the third anniversary of the Islamic Republic of Iran and practically the third anniversary of the return of Ayatollah Khomeyni. You are an exile, 3 years later, what have you achieved? What do you do, and what are your links with Iran today?

[Answer] I think that it is absolutely essential to say that the revolution which is presently called Islamic was in fact nothing other than the persistent demand for 25 years for more freedom, more democracy, and even for the exact implementation of the constitutional law we had in Iran for 75 years. This law was transgressed, I know this, I said it many times. But as political parties were not organized, not authorized, the mullahs took advantage of the situation -- and here one must add that the intelligentsia, as it were, or those who believed themselves to be the successors of Mossadeq proved to be unworthy of their responsibilities and gave way to the fanatical and hysterical current of the mullahs.

[Question] Then to you it is not an Islamic Republic but just a republic?

[Answer] It is a republic, even an Islamic-style one, I must say. But as far as I know, the community of Islamic countries detests this Islamic regime.

[Question] I repeat my question: What have you achieved; what do you do; what are your links with Iran?

[Answer] I have never been without links with Iran, and I am more and more in contact with it. Most regrettably, the dispatches from [correspondents] Yves l'Oiseau have shown very clearly the atmosphere of terror which reigns in Iran, and it is not easy for a foreigner, for a Frenchman, with whom one would have very correct contacts, to escape this perpetual surveillance. For an Iranian, for someone like myself, it is very difficult to go out there and back or to send people out there to gather information; but, both in the military and civilian spheres, we have our constant contacts and I think that the best agent for our cause is Khomeyni himself. He could after all have organized society upon new and logical foundations, with the popularity he had gained, with minimal effort, if I may so so, unjustly. He could have organized the new society on logical foundations or even religious ones, but what we now have is chaos, economic disaster, international isolation, as much in the industrial sphere as in the intellectual. We see the universities shut down, the press throttled and so on.

[Question] You speak like a leader of the opposition. Do you think that you have a chance of returning to power in Iran someday? Has the fact that you assumed the transition between the shah of Iran and Ayatollah Khomeyni somehow discredited you over there?

[Answer] Quite the contrary; if it had to be done all over again, I would do it. Because, once again, we sought democracy and the implementation of the Constitution. The people did not want a Khomeyni-style Islamic Republic; on the contrary, they wanted a democratic regime, no matter what its exterior form.

[Question] I return to a more political aspect; have you maintained contacts with the members of the opposition-in-exile? I mean, for instance, Mr Bani-Sadr?

[Answer] I regard Mr Bani-Sadr as a member of the opposition, a man who was the real architect of the Islamic constitution. He was Khomeyni's adviser, his spoiled and loved child for years and years. He knew very well the depths of his thought. He was the chairman of the Revolution Council and, in addition, the president of the republic. And, the day when he was told: Sir, you are not commander in chief anymore, for one reason or another [words indistinct], I am a democrat; I am a nationalist. [passage indistinct] But you know it was he who, as head of the revolutionary tribunal, sent dozens and dozens of men to their death without any form of trial.

[Question] Who then is the sole chief of the opposition-in-exile? Is it you?

[Answer] I do not pretend to be. Those who oppose the Khomeyni regime can say that they struggle for Iran. But there is more: We do not want to replace a dictatorship by another dictatorship. Before anything else, I want the rule of law, of legality, of respect for the individual. This is what I have learned since I was young in France; it was confirmed when we had the chance and honor of taking part in the Mossadeq government.

[Question] Are you now speculating, or do you have the means of coming back to power someday?

[Answer] When one struggles, one has hope. A man who struggles without hope is, in my opinion, either dead or completely crazy.

[Question] It is said that you recently met President Husni Mubarak of Egypt, I do not know whether it was in Paris or Cairo. Well, (?first, when did you meet him); is it true? Did you recently meet Mr Mubarak?

[Answer] Yes, in Cairo.

[Question] Good. And when you met Mr Mubarak what did you say to each other?

[Answer] Well, I said the same thing that I say to any man of good will, and this one is simply responsible for a large country situated in the Middle East. All the ordeals now besetting Iran could one day beset the entire region. Therefore, one must take the initiative. One must be aware of what is going to happen in, I do not know, 2 years, 3 years or 5 years. If this religious fundamentalism advances and happens to spill over the borders of Iran, which I do not at all wish for anybody, I think that we are obliged to consult one another, to consult people of good faith, of good will and say: We are beset by an ordeal, try to avoid it.

[Question] Well, let us say that you are somehow playing the role of an adviser to President Mubarak who fears Islamic fundamentalism?

[Answer] No, I do not play the role of an adviser for anyone. I have advised against (?certain things), but I am not an adviser to anyone. I simply warn you as a sensible man living in France. I can add that if I can meet Mr Brezhnev, for instance, I would tell him that there are 60,000 Muslims in the south of the Soviet Union, near the Iranian border, and if you let Islam infiltrate there, I mean Khomeyni's Islam, well, you will also have problems, you too. But this is a question that Khomeyni does not understand. He is a caliph, a religious emperor. [Words indistinct] that has no borders.

[Question] At any rate, the Khomeyni phenomenon seriously worries Mr Mubarak?

[Answer] Not just Mr Mubarak. It worries all the Arab countries.

[Question] It seems that in order to avoid any risk of a coup in Tehran itself, the Islamic power has concentrated a considerable number of military men away from the capital, on the border with Iraq. The Iranian Army is reportedly in possession of means of smashing its enemy and even of advancing to Baghdad, but the mullahs are prudent and do not want to see heroes, military heroes back in Tehran. They fear a coup. Do you agree with this analysis?

[Answer] This analysis is generally correct, but I must say one thing: Mr Khomeyni has done everything to antagonise Iraq, sending money and propaganda in the struggle between Shi'ites and Sunnis, and so on. The army is on the frontier for two reasons: The first is the one you have mentioned, that for the army to return victorious to Tehran is a danger for Khomeyni, for the mullahs as a whole. But there is something else: With the soldiers at the frontiers, very far from Tehran, propaganda can be made every day saying that if such and such thing is in short supply, if Iran is suffering from such and such a misfortune, then it is because Iran is at war, Iran is at war against the infidels. That is Khomeyni's thesis. But we Iranians do not want to wage war on anybody, not war against the Christians nor against Muslims nor against infidels.

[Question] You are speaking of a holy war. I should like to talk about a civil war. Apparently repression has not ceased, executions continue unabated. Is there today a real risk of civil war in Iran?

[Answer] I would not wish it, but I do think there would be one unless there was foreign intervention.

[Question] Would that be possible?

[Answer] It is always possible. I am thinking here of the great powers through the intermediary of others. But what I can tell you is that among those who support us, those who sympathize with us, I have a list here of 15 who have been executed. There are two women on the list. Five are military and the rest civilians. This is something that goes on daily.

There is some exaggeration when it is claimed that all those who are being executed are Mojahedin. It is not true. The Mojahedin are Iranians like the rest of us; they are young, impulsive and fanatic, but who are beginning to have enough of all this. They are told: You are Muslims, you are Marxists, you are this or that. In Iran today people are being executed not because they have guns in their hands but they are executed because they hold political opinions that are different from those of the mullahs.

[Question] Have you any information or figures on the number of people executed?

[Answer] The exact number will never be known, but every time the Islamic Republic makes some announcements we can be fairly sure what they contain. I have just shown you a list of 15 people executed 3 days ago, all of them known personally by me.

[Question] Today, in 1982, what are your hopes of really returning to Iran? Do you really believe that one day you will go back and that you have a part to play, a political role?

[Answer] As far as I am concerned, it is quite a secondary matter. What is essential is that Iran should recover its independence, its freedom, above all, and to see its economy flourishing, with a regime that would respect everybody. As far as I am concerned, I must repeat it, I have always been a social-democrat and will never cease being a social-democrat. But Iran needs first of all freedom and peace so that it can recover the reknown which it used to enjoy and which it lost with the absurd act of holding the hostages in the American Embassy in Tehran, and other acts against foreigners or religious minorities, or even against Iranians who are Shi'ite Muslims.

[Question] In your opinion, is there a way; do you have in mind a possible way of replacing Ayatollah Khomeyni, of arriving to power without the Islamic regime?

[Answer] First one must get rid of him and his cronies. Then, in a perfectly democratic atmosphere, with a certain calm, one can establish a regime based, once again, on independence, freedom and social progress.

AFGHAN MUJAHIDIN SCORE SUCCESSES IN QANDAHAR

LD041030 Tehran IRNA in English 0942 GMT 4 Feb 82

[Text] Tehran, 4 Feb (IRNA) -- The Muslim mujahidin of Afghanistan, during operations in Qandahar Province this week, killed a large number of government and Soviet forces and destroyed 11 of their tanks, the office of the Muslim mujahidin of Afghanistan in Zahedan announced today. The tanks were destroyed by mines planted by the mujahidin, it said.

Meanwhile, several other armoured tanks were destroyed in an ambush attack of the mujahidin in the same province. In this operation, the tanks were blown up by RPG-7's.

The same report added that nine innocent people of a village in the province were martyred by the pro-government forces in these clashes.